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NEW RIVER CHANNEL AND DAM UNDER CONSTRUCTION

FLOOD CONTROL ON THE HAVEL -- Wirtschaft im Aufbau, No 3, 1 Feb 49

In 1949, dredging work was resumed on a new channel to divert the mouth of the Havel river. The Havel empties into the Elbe, and during periods of high water the level of the Elbe is higher than that of the Havel, so that the latter backs up and floods the surrounding area. On one occasion an area of 37,000 hectares was flooded. Although this is a very fertile area it cannot be used intensively for agricultural purposes because in the spring it is generally too wet for planting.

Flood-control plans were made in 1937, but the work which was begun was interrupted by the war. A protective wall at Quitzobel has already been completed.

The new channel, which branches off from the Haval about one kilometer above the present mouth, will run parallel to the Elbe and will empty into it at a point about 6.7 kilometers farther downstream, near Gnevsdorf, where the water level is about one meter lower than at the present mouth. This means that the flood point will be lower and flood waters will cover a smaller area. After the new channel is completed, the old river mouth will be closed off.

The base of the new channel varies between 44 and 49 meters in width. There is to be a retaining dam near Gnevsdorf which will keep the water in the channel at a high enough level during the summer to alleviate drought damage in the surrounding areas. In connection with this dam there will be a lock for barges, a fish ladder, and a footbridge.

THE SCSA DAM -- Die Wirtschaft, No 21, 1 Nov 49

The population of Aue has increased so greatly during the last few years as a result of mining operations in the neighborhood that drinking water for the area has become a problem. Therefore, construction of a large dam is

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refing started on the small Bockau River near Soss, an absoloned minima area. The river flows through a deep, narrow valley to the resort town of Bianenthal. The dam, which is being built at the river's widest point, will have a capacity of 6 million cubic meters of drinking water. It will be able to supply not only Aue, but also Schneeberg-Neustadtel, the industrial villages of Lauter, Zachoriau, Albernau, and Niederschlema, and Oberschlema Radium Bath. These villages have formed a water supply union, and have furnished large numbers of volunteers to work on the dam.

The dam is scheduled to furnish the first drinking water in october 1950. Preliminary work includes building a 3-kilometer cable railroad to Blauenthal for transportation of building materials. Stone will be obtained from a special quarry at the dam site. A power station will be built to provide power for operating cranes and for electric lighting. Pumping stations are also planned.

The dam wall will be 62 meters high and 200 meters long. It will block a valley which extends about 2 kilometers upstream. The lake which will be formed will have an area of 45 hectares.

Two kilometers of pipeline will carry water to a purification reservoir, from which point it will be carried to a town reservoir near Neustadtel which has a capacity of 6,000 cubic meters. High in the forest above Aue a second reservoir to supply Aue and Lauter is being dug which will have a capacity of 10,000 cubic meters.

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